Appendix I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 756 asked by Sri M. Narayana Kurup at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 16th February 1955, page 649 supra.]

Proceedings of the State Harijan Welfare Committee held on 4th October 1954.

Present.

Sri B. Parameswaran, Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport (*Chairman*).

Officials.

Sri M. Bhavani Shanker Rao, Deputy Secretary to Government, Department of Industries, Labour and Co-operation.

Sri G. E. Muthirulandi, I.A.S., Director of Harijan Welfare.

Sri S. Nithiyanandam, Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

Non-officials.

1 Sri V. Bhashyam Ayyangar, M.L.C., Madras.
2 Sri M. Dharmalingam, M.L.A., Chingleput.
3 Sri D. Dasarathan, M.L.A., North Arcot.
4 Sri H. M. Jagannathan, M.L.A., North Arcot.
5 Sri S. Arumugam, M.L.A., Salem.
6 Sri O. A. Nanjappa, M.L.A., Salem.
7 Sri P. K. Thirumurthi, M.L.A., Coimbatore.
8 Sri A. S. Sahajanandam, M.L.A., South Arcot.
9 Sri M. Marimuthu, M.L.A., Tanjore.
10 Sri A. Vaigundam, M.L.A., Ramanathapuram.
11 Sri V. S. Sivaprakasam, M.L.A., Madurai.
12 Swami Anand Thirth, M.L.A., Madurai.
13 Sri V. Arumugam, M.L.A., Tirunelveli.
14 Sri K. H. Bomman, M.L.A., The Nilgiris.
15 Sri M. Chadayan, M.L.A., Malabar.
16 Sri E. Kannan, Malabar.
17 Sri K. Ishwara, M.L.A., South Kanara.

Official resolutions.

Resolution No. 1.—(In pursuance of G.O. Ms. No. 725, Firka Development, dated 6th August 1949, Part II Schemes of 1955–56 will be placed before the Committee.)

[16th February 1955

When the proposals for Part II Scheme for the year 1955–56 were placed before the Committee, all the members unanimously accepted the schemes in its entirety. Sri E. Kannan of Malabar made an appeal to the Government that the entire provision made for the opening of all the ten Labour schools in Malabar may be deleted and the amount thus saved diverted to increase the strength of the Girls' Hostel at Palghat. Sri D. Dasarathan, the member from North Arcot, complained that the Gudiyattam hostel is not being properly maintained. He also said that the strength in the Wandiwash hostel should be increased. The Director said that a new committee of management is being proposed for Gudiyattam hostel and that he would enquire into the matter.

While discussing the provision made in Part II proposals towards cost of acquisition of house-sites in Malabar and Tanjore districts, Sri E. Kannan complained that simply because there was the Malabar Tenancy Act, there was the mistaken impression that only a few Harijans need be provided with house-sites. He said that there were many loop holes in the Act under which the jenmi is at liberty to evict the Harijans as he wants. The Chairman said that he would be visiting Malabar shortly and that the matter may be discussed on the spot with officials and non-officials.

This was accepted.

Resolution No. 2.—(To request the Committee to discuss regarding the transfer of Harijan Welfare schools to Education department.)

Some of the members pleaded that the Labour schools in the State may be transferred to the Education department, with a view to intensifying the supervision over the studies of the students by that department. Sri Sahajananda objected to the transfer of the schools to the Education department as he thought that the education of Harijan students would suffer by such transfer. Sri Bashyam Ayyangar stated that if the Labour schools are transferred to the Education department all the schools, both Labour and Non-labour, will be brought under the control of Education department and this may result in difficulties to Harijan students in Labour schools who may not get mid-day meals. The Minister pointed out that the question is one of raising the standard of education and rectifying defects and that this question need not be mixed up with the question of supply of mid-day meals. The Director of Harijan Welfare informed the Committee members that mid-day meals are being supplied to all the Harijan students reading in Labour schools, and that the meals could be continued even after the proposed transfer to the Education department. To raise the standard of literacy among the Harijans, the Minister was keen in asking the Education department to inspect the Labour schools intensively. Sri O. A. Nanjappa of Salem district expressed that Education department must take over the administration of the Labour schools, so that supervision may be effective. Some members did

16th February 1955]

not support this. As there was difference of opinion among the members, the Minister agreed to the suggestion that this item may be adjourned for consideration in the next meeting of the committee.

Resolutions moved by Sri S. Arumugam, M.L.A., Salem.

Resolution No. 3.—(The Harijans residing in municipal limits are not provided with house-sites free of cost by Government but it is the look out of the municipality to provide them with house-sites. This causes them a great hardship. The Harijons living in municipal limits should be provided with house-sites at free of cost as in the case of Harijans living outside the municipal areas.)

The member was informed that the matter is already receiving attention. Hence not pressed.

Resolution No. 4.—(Harijans owning house-sites in municipal limits and outside the municipal limits may be given long-term loans to build houses through the Harijans Welfare Department.)

After discussion not pressed.

Resolution No. 5.—(Harijan Welfare schools should be located in Harijan quarters and the Harijans should be appointed as teachers. The schools located in Caste Hindu quarters may be shifted to Harijan quarters.)

After discussion not pressed.

Resolution No. 6.—(In Harijan Welfare schools where the headmasters are Caste Hindus, the Harijans are subjected to caste prejudice. This position should be changed.)

After discussion not pressed.

Resolution No. 7.—(Steps should be taken immediately to assign poramboke lands to landless Harijans.)

Sri Kannan complained that in spite of the orders of the Government to the effect that poramboke lands should be assigned to the Harijans, they were refused to be assigned any land. When Harijans apply, the Collector used to reply that the land is not available for assignment, but subsequently the same land is assigned to a non-Harijan. The Director of Harijan Welfare stated that specific cases may be pointed out to the Collector, or to the Board of Revenue and if both do not do justice, the matter may be referred to the Government or to Director of Harijan Welfare and action would be taken.

Proposition agreed to.

Resolutions moved by Sri O. A. Nanjappa, M.L.A., Salem.

Resolution No. 8.—(In view of the most conservative attitude being pursued by Revenue authorities in the districts in the matter of disposing of Harijan issues, the Collectors of all districts in State may be requested to be very liberal and consideratee in the

matter of assigning vacant sites of all kinds to houseless Harijans and Harijan institutions which have put in petitions for such sites for improvement of their hostels and Harijan cheries.)

After discussion not pressed.

Resolution No. 9.—(Due to economic distress and ignorance on the part of rural mass, female education is being neglected and it is high time that the State should take keen interest in starting Harijan hostels for girls in every taluk headquarters and encourage private bodies and institutions in running such hostels for promoting the education of Harijan girls.)

The Minister pointed out that girls' hostels are at present given all the privileges. He also stated that within the slender resources available, all the districts will have to be equally attended to in the matter of education of Harijan girls. In view of this, the resolution was not pressed. The member from Salem said that in the Guild of Service Hostel a woman member who has no sympathy for Harijans has been appointed as Secretary to look after the hostel. The Minister said that Government also can nominate members on the management and that the matter will be looked into.

Resolutions moved by Sri P. K. Thirumurthi, M.L.A., Pollachi.

Resolution No. 10.—(After 1361 fasli, the Harijans have cultivated dry poramboke and canal poramboke lands. They are levied with heavy land revenue. They may be exempted from payment of land revenue for those lands.)

Specific instance of grievances may be brought to the notice of the Director of Harijan Welfare who promised to meet the Collectors directly, explain the position, and get the matter settled.

Resolutions moved by Sri M. Marimuthu, M.L.A., Tanjore.

Resolution No. 11.—(In Pattukkottai taluk, the Harijan Welfare School teachers do not reside in the same village where they are working consequently they are attending the schools leaving their houses by 10 a.m. and close the school by 3 p.m. They may be directed to reside in the same village where the school is located.)

Member requested to report specified cases.

Resolutions Nos. 12 *and* 13.—(The mid-day meals are at present also supplied to some of the employees like teachers, clerks, etc. As they are in a better position, their children need not be supplied with mid-day meals. Mid-day meals may be supplied to other poor children.)

Not pressed after discussion. In Pattukkottai High School run by the Tanjore District Board, mid-day meals were supplied to students. But now it has been stopped for the past four months. Government may be pleased to order the supply of mid-day meals immediately.

16th February 1955]

Director of Harijan Welfare promised to take up the matter with the District Board.

Resolutions moved by Sri V. Arumugham, M.L.A., Tirunelveli.

Resolution No. 14.—(To request Government to entrust the working of provision of drinking water facilities to Harijans in Tirunelveli district to the Harijan Welfare department instead of to the Revenue department under Rural Water-supply Scheme as there is a lot of delay in the Revenue department.)

Rural Welfare Scheme explained and so not pressed.

Resolution No. 15.—(To request the Government to provide funds for Tirunelveli district for the formation of roads leading to cheries from the main roads.)

Sri V. Arumugham, M.L.A., the member from Tirunelveli district, was advised to raise the issue at the District Harijan Welfare Committee.

Resolutions moved by Sri A. S. Sahajanandam, M.L.A., South Arcot.

Resolution No. 16.—(In Nandanar hostels, Chidambaram, students are given inadequate food of 10 oz. rice. They are becoming weak and do not concentrate on their studies. The quantity should be increased immediately from 10 oz. to 16 oz.)

Director of Harijan Welfare promised to look into the matter.

Resolution No. 17.—(To request Government to repair the hostel blocks as the blocks are unfit for occupation of the boarders. The electrical wiring should be renewed and the cooking vessels and other utensils require urgent tinning. The students should be supplied with ghee as they are now subjected to itches and other diseases.)

Note of Director of Harijan Welfare was accepted with a recommendation that the renewal of the electric wiring may be taken up immediately.

Resolution No. 18.—(The rate of Rs. 15 per boarder appears to be small and it should be increased as in the case of hostel at Salem.)

The Director of Harijan Welfare pointed out that the Government fixed the rate of dietary charges at Rs. 15 per boarder exclusive of maintenance and establishment charges in the Government Nandanar hostels. It was suggested that a committee may be constituted to fix rates of boarding grants for the various kinds of hostels. It was agreed that the suggestion might be examined.

In the matter of the control of the Nandanar schools and hostels in Chidambaram it was requested that a committee may be formed to make necessary recommendations to Government so that action may be taken in the light of the recommendations of such a committee.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS